

MINUTES FOR THE July 9, 2015, BOARD MEETING OF THE SUPERVISORS FOR THE CLAY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, County Highway Dept./MN DOT/City of Moorhead joint facility, MOORHEAD, MN.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Krabbenhoft at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Paul Krabbenhoft, Chairperson
 Joel Hildebrandt, Vice-Chairperson
 Carol Schoff, Treasurer
 Randy Schellack, Secretary
 Steve Dalen, Reporter

 Others present: Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager
 Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator
 Lynn Foss, Water Resource Management Technician
 Craig Halverson, District Technician/CFO
 Sharon Lean, District Conservationist
 Tony Nelson, PF Biologist
 Wayne Ingersoll, County Commissioner
 Brett Arne, BWSR Board Conservationist

 Absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA: M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schoff, to approve the July agenda, Motion carried.

THE MEETING AND MILEAGE FORMS WERE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERVISORS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A draft copy of the June 9, 2015 minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the July meeting. **M/S/P, Schoff/Dalen, to approve the June 9, 2015, minutes,** Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Carol discussed financials.

M/S/P, Schellack/Hildebrandt, to approve the June 30, 2015, Treasurer's report, Motion carried

APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID: The list of vouchers from check 15446 - 15456 and 18606-18634 was reviewed and the approval was given to have been paid by the due date.

M/S/P, Dalen/Schellack, to approve the vouchers that had been paid as listed, Motion carried.

DNR GROUNDWATER MONITORING AGREEMENT

Discussed the groundwater monitoring agreement for the year 2016, \$4020.00 (\$30/ Well).

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to approve signing the DNR Groundwater Monitoring Agreement.

NRCS ITEMS: See attached copy of Sharon's report.

BWSR ITEMS:

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY: Pertaining to Gov. Dayton's Buffer Initiative, Brett stated that the DNR will have a Public Waters Inventory map available as of July 1, 2016, anything on this map will be required to have a buffer. It is unsure yet if contributing waters will be included. The County will be able to adjust the buffer footage on these water courses with a 50 foot average and a 30 foot min. buffer. This will become a promotion that the SWCD will support. Brett stated that the SWCD's will be receiving \$22 million/ \$100,000 per SWCD from the Clean Water Fund for the next two years. After the two years are up it will switch over to the BWSR Gen. Fund. This money will go to help increase SWCD capacity.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOHN JASCHKE MEETING: Kevin stated that John went through the legislative session and what will be coming down to us.

SWCD MANAGER'S MEETING: Brett stated that the meeting was held June 29th. They discussed the legislative session. Brett would like to have one of these meetings at least three times through the year.

CWF APPLICATION PERIOD OPEN: Brett stated that the application period has been scheduled earlier this year. The application period used to be open from Sept- October, however; there was not enough time for the review process before the MASWCD annual convention in December so it has been approved to run from July 6- August 28.

BSWR ACADEMY: Brett stated that the BWSR Academy will be held at Breezy Point Oct. 27-29.

.....5:00 Sharon left

GRANTS VERIFICATION AUDIT: Kevin stated that Jeanette Austin, BWSR, sent an E-mail saying that they are behind schedule. We should have the draft results by Aug 17.

PRAP UPDATE: Kevin stated that he and Lynn met with Tim Magnusson & Bruce Jaster to discuss the water plan and what needs to be done yet. Office staff met with Brett Arne to discuss what we should be doing. A survey was sent out to 15 partners, besides supervisors and staff. The results will be given at the Sept. Board meeting.

PHASE XV FARM BILL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION APPROVAL: Kevin stated that our application for the Farm Bill Grant was approved. There is no grant agreement as of yet, more to come in the future.

2016 BUDGET REQUEST: Kevin stated that he sent in the 2016 County budget request. A lot of the figures stayed the same; however, there was a 3% increase over last year's numbers being requested.

DNR LEASE OF COUNTY PROPERTY NOXIOUS WEED PROBLEM: Kevin stated that Shelly Hedtke from the DNR called to talk to him about the DNR Prairie Grass Management area that was sprayed for weeds by L&M Road Services. She was upset with the spraying and referred to the area as "torched." Kevin and Lynn went out to survey this area. Hopes are that the native grasses will not be affected. We and the DNR will continue to monitor the site.

RRV AG WATER ISSUES FORUM: Kevin stated that the meeting will be held in Ada on July 16.

.....5:30 Wayne left

MASWCD TRAINING: Kevin stated that the meeting will be held Sept 16 & 17 in St. Cloud. It could be beneficial for Amanda and Randy to attend, although anyone is welcome.

FALL TOUR: Kevin discussed possible days that would work for the fall tour and possible projects to visit. The SWCD board decided on the morning of Sept. 10 with the board meeting to follow.

.....5:45 Joel left

WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLANS: Lynn stated that Georgetown had a meeting scheduled for July 1st that was postponed to July 23. The Barnesville project is done. Glyndon has held one meeting, but there has been no information since.

OFFICE LEASE: Kevin stated that Craig, Lynn, Tony, Amanda and himself went to tour the County/MN DOT/City of Moorhead joint facility on Wednesday July 8. Discussed advantages and disadvantages of the building; and the possibility of expanding the front area to house the SWCD. Kevin stated that he will attend a meeting with representatives from the County, MN DOT, the City of Moorhead, and the SWCD Supervisors on July 22 to discuss a possible lease.

2015 OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONIST: Randy stated that he hasn't made a selection yet.

GRASS DRILL: Kevin stated that Tom Thysell, Buffalo River Sales, met with Craig, Randy and himself to discuss the specifications and price quote for a Great Plains Grass Drill. The SWCD board decided to get more information and discuss at the next board meeting.

CLAY COUNTY FAIR BOOTH: Kevin stated that Tony and Craig will be setting up the booth and that the shifts for Fri, Sat and Sun were covered.

REPORTS:

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: No Report

CFO PROGRAM: Craig stated that he will be starting his compliance checks at the end of July.

NO-TILL DRILL: Craig stated that there has been 1,173 acres planted with the drills.

CAI UPDATE: Kevin stated that there has been a lot of weed complaints coming in. Kevin and Lynn will be attending the annual MACAI conference being held at Thumper Pond July 13-15. Kevin stated that there could be a possible grant for weed control starting in 2016.

LWM/WCA: See attached report.

SWCD ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION: Amanda stated that she attended the Admin session held in Duluth June 17 & 18. There were presentations that discussed pollinator habitat, pay equity, QuickBooks, and the GASB 68.

AREA 1 RESOLUTION MEETING: Paul, Carol, and Kevin attended the meeting. Discussed the different resolutions. The Clay SWCD Supervisor per diem rates resolution and NACD dues resolution were passed along with Traverse SWCD's amount to trigger an audit resolution, and Pennington Counties NRCS & SWCD Partnership resolution.

TSA UPDATE: Carol stated that the TSA Executive Committee approved the budget. The elected officers are the same as before, there will be a new election of officers held in January.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No report.

PF UPDATE: Tony stated that Robert Thompson RIM easement is completed and paid, working to get it seeded this spring to CRP Standards. Steve Thompson, w9's and documents were forwarded to BWSR waiting for new Easement Agreement. Dave Herbranson CRP Completed, RIM Easement recorded and final policy returned, forwarded to BWSR, and sent back, because it needs corrections.

.....6:40 Lynn and Steve left

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 10-12, Clay County Fair

July 13-15, MACAI state conference

July 16, RRV AG Water Issues Forum

July 22, Office Audit, and July 22, County/MN DOT, and City of Moorhead Meeting

ADDITIONAL ITEMS: Discussed the discovery of Zebra Mussels in the Red River.

Next Meeting Date: Aug 13, 2015 - - - 4:00 pm.

ADJOURN: Supervisor Krabbenhoft called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45. Motion carried.

BY: Amanda Lewis
District Coordinator

Randy Schellack
Secretary

Signature after approved

Date

NRCS DC Report
July 9, 2015
For the SWCD Board Meeting

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program)

The application for the Ag Waste Pit Closure is now a contract. This contract is for \$7,375.00 and located in Goose Prairie. The total new 2015 EQIP contracts is three.

For EQIP – RRBI (Red River Basin Initiative), the money allocated for Minnesota was obligated on EQIP signup 1 and 2. There is no money to fund applications for signup 3. Additional money has been requested from the National Office. It is a big question if Minnesota will received additional dollars. I have three signup 3 applications.

I need to work on three EQIP/AWEP modifications and need to complete three payments. I need to measure fences on two EQIP contracts. I need to enter two EQIP contracts in the DMS (Document Management System). DMS is through the internet and is a time consuming task.

In August, NRCS will engineer one Grade Stabilization Structure and one Grassed Waterway.

Our office has received three requests for engineering survey and designs. Two requests are for Water and Sediment Control Basins (a total for 5 basins) and the other request for a feedlot evaluation. These requests were sent to the Area Office.

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

Clay NRCS has two new 2015 CSP contracts. There so no word if additional money is being requested from the National Office. Minnesota had 1400 CSP applications and only 400 applications were funded.

One Clay CSP contract was selected for the 10% National Quality Review. This contract is for 1737.8 acre. The contract land is located in Clay, Becker and Norman County. The review deadline is September 30th.

Currently there is a renew CSP signup for expiring 2015 contracts. Our office has no expiring 2015 contracts. Next year our office has four expiring contracts.

I need to complete a contract transfer and modify one CSP contract. I need to send out producers copies for the new CSP contracts.

WRP (Wetland Reserve Program)

I have 17 WRP Summary Review and 12 WRP status reviews to complete in the field. These reviews must be completed by July 24th.

There are three WRP contracts with payments to process. There are eligibility problems with the contracts so payment cannot be made at this time. I am working with FSA to correct the problems.

I need to complete two ownership transfer one WRP contract.

Other Items

Clay County LWG (Local Work Group) meeting is scheduled for July 18th at 9:00 am. Letters were sent out for this meeting.

I need to conduct field reviews for Becker County FSA (Food Security Act) compliance reviews.

There are 91 AD 1026 which FSA needs HEL determinations. These are do too tracts and fields splits.

I have 26 requests for revise HEL plans.

I have two trainings this month for Toolkit 8 (July 20th) and Civil Rights Training (July 23rd).

NRCS made a selection for the Moorhead Soil Conservation Technician. There is no word if the individual has accepted the position.

Danny has not fully returned to the Area Office. He spends a few hour a week in the office. Dave Jones is still Area 1 acting Assist State Conservationist for Field Operations.

Sharon Lean
District Conservationist
Moorhead NRCS